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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/800,234	03/12/2004	Sze-Moey Voon	200314061-1	8846

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EXAMINER

HARRIS, ANTON B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2831

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

JK

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/800,234

Applicant(s)

VOON ET AL

Examiner

Anton B. Harris

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 12-16 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

1. Applicant's election with traverse of claims 1-11 in the reply filed on 03 November 2005 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that it would not be a burden on the Examiner to search and examine claims 1-16. This is not found persuasive because the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus such as a television or a transceiver. The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1 and 3-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lajara et al. (6,373,697).

Regarding claim 1, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses a housing comprising: a storage compartment (figure 12A) including: a body (figure 12A) having an interior (figure 12A), a bottom (figure 12A) and a sidewall (figure 12A) that define the interior, and a passage (figure 12A) operable to allow an item disposed within the interior to be communicatively coupled to another item outside the interior; and a lid (figure 12A).

Regarding claim 3, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses that the interior is sized to hold storage media (figure 12A).

Regarding claim 4, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses that the sidewall (figure 12A) includes the passage.

Regarding claim 5, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses that the storage compartment (figure 12A) includes a coupling element (figure 12A) operable to couple the lid (figure 12A) to the sidewall (figure 12A).

Regarding claim 6, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses that the storage compartment (figure 12A) includes a locking element (figure 12A) operable to retain the lid (figure 12A) in a closed position.

Regarding claim 7, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses that: the housing (figure 12A) further comprises a conduit (figure 12A) having an opening (figure 12A); and the passage (figure 12A) opens to the conduit's opening (figure 12A).

Regarding claim 8, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses a housing comprising: a storage compartment (figure 12A) including: a body (figure 12A) having an interior (figure 12A), a bottom (figure 12A) and a sidewall (figure 12A) that define the interior (figure 12A), and a lid (figure 12A) having an opening (figure 12A) operable to allow access to an item disposed within the interior.

Regarding claim 9, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses that the interior (figure 12A) is sized to retain a camera docking station (figure 12A), and when a camera (figure 12A) is coupled to the docking station (figure 12A), the camera (figure 12A) protrudes through the opening (figure 12A).

Regarding claim 10, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses a computer system comprising: a housing (figure 12A) having a storage compartment (figure 12A) to retain an item and including: a body (figure 12A) having an interior (figure 12A), a bottom (figure 12A) and a sidewall (figure 12A) that define the interior, and a passage (figure 12A) operable to allow an item disposed within the interior to be communicatively coupled to another item outside the interior (figure 12A); and a lid (figure 12A).

Regarding claim 11, Lajara et al. (abstract) discloses a computer system comprising: a housing (figure 12A) having a storage compartment (figure 12A) to retain an item and including: a body (figure 12A) having an interior (figure 12A), a bottom (figure 12A) and a sidewall (figure 12A) that define the interior, and a lid (figure 12A) having an opening (figure 12A) operable to allow an item disposed within the interior to protrude through the opening (figure 12A).

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later

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invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lajara et al. in view of Tung-Chieh et al. (Pub. No. US 2003/00164487).

Regarding claim 2, Lajara et al. discloses the invention substantially as claimed, but lacks that the interior is sized to retain a PDA.

Tung-Chieh et al. (page 2 paragraph 0022) teaches that the interior of the housing 200 is sized to retain a PDA 100.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device of Lajara et al. by providing that the interior is sized to retain a PDA in order to transfer data with the expansion card in view of the teachings of Tung-Chieh et al.

### *Conclusion*

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Vigeant et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,469,904 discloses a computer housing including a storage compartment.

Doustou, III et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,392,872 discloses a computer housing including a storage compartment.

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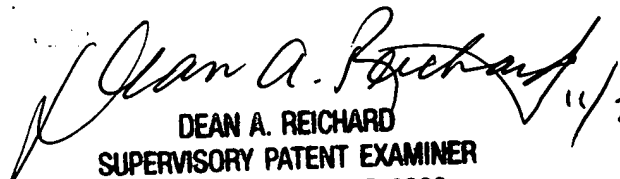
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anton B Harris whose telephone number is (571) 272-1976. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr.

Dean Reichard, can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext 31. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

abh

11/28/05

  
DEAN A. REICHARD  
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11/28/05